

HOWNICKAN

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE



Vol. 22, No. 3

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

March 2000



Leslie Deer Leads Tribal Members Through Their Paces During Dance Lessons At Last Year's Festival

Festival 2000 includes old, new

Arrows will fly through the air and food will be served non-stop at the second annual Citizen Potawatomi Nation Heritage Festival June 23-25

New asphalt has been poured over the pow wow grounds parking lot, a new concession stand has been built and more activities for children are in the works as tribal officials swing into high gear for the festival, successful beyond their expectations last year.

That success caused a few problems that have been addressed this year, particularly food service. "Instead of trying to serve so many people scheduled meals, we will have food available all day and evening," said Vice Chairman Linda Capps. There will be four main food stands set by the tribe for free meals and, of course, vendor stands at other locations for those speciality items everyone enjoys.

The arrows will be aimed at targets, not

people, Capps said. A new competition this year will be archery, both the modern type and the traditional. Archers may compete in either long bow or recurve contests, or in compound bow contests.

Another new area of competition will be chess. A softball tournament is also planned and will be the first if the weather cooperates; one was planned last year but rained. The tournament will be for teams made up of Potawatomi tribal members and their immediate families only.

Those not athletically inclined will find new materials to supplement the Potawatomi language lessons. The booklet and tape set will give the Potawatomi words and phrases for greetings, animals and foods. It is the first of a planned language series written and prepared by Suzanne Battese. Capps emphasized that tribal members are not required to purchase the materials in order to take the lessons, but may want them to take home and study.

A high point of the first Festival last year were the reunion tents for eight of the original 40 Potawatomi families who made the move from Kansas to the Oklahoma reservation in the late 1860s. In 2000, nine

Festival includes special reunions for nine families

By JOHN A. BARRETT JR.

CHAIRMAN, CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

Nine Citizen Potawatomi families will renew their ties this June at our second annual Heritage Festival, continuing our emphasis on the tribe as family.

At our first festival last year, eight families had reunion tents provided by the tribe. This year there will be nine because we have 41 basic families that all moved here from Kansas. For a reunion every five years, one year has to have nine.

Each reunion tent will have chairs and tables for eating and relaxing, a video camera and player to record stories and share tapes, maps of the original family allotments, any written material we have about the family history, and pertinent information about the reunion. Audio recorders will also be provided and disposable still cameras. Each family will select a spokesperson(s) who will lead the family in tribal events for fun.

As we continue this system next year and in the years to follow, that means there will be a major reunion for your family at Festival every five years. Of course, the "off year" families can have a tent at their own expense with advance notice to us, or a reunion area with a sign can be reserved.

As I have said to you many times, the essence of tribe is family. A tribe is a group of interrelated families that share a common language, art, culture, history and territory who grew as an independent community until the need for a government became necessary. The families that make up the modern Citizen Potawatomi Nation share a common destiny as unique as their dual citizenship. Their history and their blood gives them their tribe; their tribe works for their future security and prosperity. As long as the families survive, the tribe survives.

Let me tell you a little about some of the families that are having reunions this year: **ANDERSON:** The Andersons settled in the northern part of the reservation, and are prominent in the Harrah/McCloud area. They also settled west of Shawnee along the river. Mary Bourbonnais of Mission Church fame was an Anderson, as was Peter Anderson who fought the cattle rustling outlaws of

CPN TRIBAL MEMBER PHOTO ID CARDS

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Rolls Department is now setting appointments for new picture ID enrollment cards. The tribe will issue each enrolled member one free photo ID. Subsequent ID cards will cost \$5. The following Saturdays have been scheduled for Tribal Rolls to process ID cards for enrolled tribal members: May 4, May 20, June 3, and June 10.

In addition, Tribal Rolls staff members are setting appointments for from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on weekdays. It is necessary to make an appointment to avoid waiting in line or other delays in delivery service. Please contact Tribal Rolls by calling 1-800-880-9880 or 405-275-3121.

All picture ID appointments will be conducted at the Tribal Headquarters Building located at 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma. Proper identification is required. *Proper Identification is one of the following: CPN enrollment card, driver's license, or birth certificate.*

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TRIBAL TRACTS

Walking on

D.W. Wolfe

Shawnee resident D.W. Wolfe died recently in Shawnee. He was 86. Mr. Wolfe was born Aug. 22, 1913, in Sacred Heart to William Jacob Wolfe and Martha (Curley) Wolfe. He married Elsie Mae Clark in 1938.

Wolfe worked in the oil fields until 1964. He then moved to Kansas City, Kansas and worked for Columbian Steel Co. He had lived in Shawnee since 1974. After moving to Shawnee in 1974, he began working for the OG&E "Hand in Hand" program.

Mr. Wolfe was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and was active in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's affairs.

Survivors include his sons, Glen Doris Wolfe, Tommy Lynn Wolfe, Rickey Lee Wolfe, all of Oklahoma City, William Edward Wolfe, Eufaula, and Dallas Ray Wolfe, Kansas City, Kan.; daughters, Jeanette Groman and Judy Jones, both of Shawnee; sisters, Nettie Poyner Fayetteville, Ark., Viola Cavender, Durant, and Lucille Hughes, Los Angeles, Calif.; brother, Willie Wolfe, Fayetteville, Ark.; 25 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Wolfe was preceded in death by his parents; wife; two sons, Larry Joe Wolfe and Stephen Dwayne Wolfe; one grandson, Randy King Jones II; two brothers; and two sisters.

Services will be 2 p.m. Wednesday at Resthaven Funeral Home with the Rev.

Max Packer officiating. Burial will be at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Edith Louise Roberts

Edith Louise Roberts, 98, long time Oklahoma City resident, passed away on Sunday, March 5, 2000 in Chandler, Oklahoma where she was currently living with her son and family.

She was born Sunday, April 14, 1901 in Indian Territory near Shawnee, Oklahoma, and was the third of five children born to William James Martin and Lydia Christine [Tina] (Ogee) Martin. She was the granddaughter of Robert Allen Ogee and Emily Antoinette Beaubien. She was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and Indian Baptist Church of Oklahoma City.

Edith was educated at Chilocco Indian School where she learned, among other things, the art of fine sewing. She married Everett Jones on September 6, 1919 in Norman, Oklahoma. Two daughters were born to this marriage. All these have preceded her in death. On July 4, 1930, she married Joe Clark Roberts. He died on March 27, 1957. They lived most of their married life in Oklahoma City.

For many years Edith applied her sewing skills by working in her sister Annette's alteration shop. During her children's school years, she operated her sewing business from her home and had a diverse clientele. Her expertise ranged from menswear to band and pep squad uniforms to exquisite wedding gowns, and everything in between. During this time, she was also active in various organizations and, for many years, was president of the Crooked Oak School PTA. After her husband died and her children were grown she joined Parks Brothers Menswear as head seamstress. She retired from there in 1967.

In addition to sewing, her hobbies included crocheting, latchhooking rugs and wall hangings, fishing, bowling, traveling and flower gardening. She has left a vast array of her handiwork for her family to cherish as heirlooms. She will be remembered for her creative skills, humor, sense of independence, vivid storytelling, pride in her family and her love for animals, especially cats.

Edith was preceded in death by her parents, two husbands, two daughters and three sisters. Survivors include a brother, Robert Preston Martin, Wheatland, California; two sons and daughters-in-law, Joe and Yoshie Roberts, Chula Vista, California; Leo and Mary Roberts, Chandler, Oklahoma; a daughter and son-in-law, Louise and Mack Spencer, Sherman, Texas; nine grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; a longtime friend and caregiver, Loeva Trosper; and many nieces and nephews.

Graveside services were held March 8, 2000 at Memorial Park Cemetery in

Oklahoma City, with Chaplain Les Hastings officiating under the direction of Parks Brothers Funeral Home, Chandler, Oklahoma.

Mahota P. Robinson

Mahota P. Robinson of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma passed away March 23, 2000. She was 85 years old.

Mahota was born in Harrah, Oklahoma June 21, 1914 to Robert J. and Mahota (McCarty) Navarre. She married James Hargis Robinson on October 7, 1939 in Oklahoma City. Mahota was a member of Metropolitan Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband James H. Robinson of Oklahoma City, sons; Thomas M. Robinson and Anne Pfauth of Anchorage, Alaska, and J. Randall Robinson and his wife B.J. of Edmond, Oklahoma; sisters, Patricia Watson and Margie Klotz; grandchildren Jim M. Robinson and Whitney K. Robinson. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Sharon Patricia Robinson.

Funeral services were held March 29, 2000 in the North Colonial Chapel of Vondel L. Smith & Son Mortuary 13125 North MacArthur. Memorials may be made to the Sharon Robinson Memorial Scholarship Fund c/o Pat Berryhill OKCCC, 7777 S. May Ave. OKC, OK. 73159.

Joe Lehman

Joe Lehman of Macomb died Thursday, March 16, 2000 in Tribbey, Oklahoma.

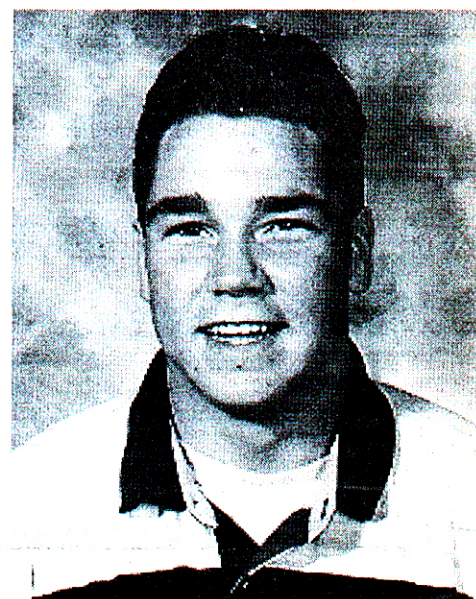
He was born December 16, 1935, in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, the son of Frank and Lucille (Haas) Lehman. He attended Pauls Valley High School. Lehman had lived in Macomb and in Tribbey for the past 22 years. On July 28, 1959, he married Beverly K. Heath in Gainesville, Texas. She preceded him in death on November 27, 1971.

Lehman has been in the grocery business all of his life, starting in Humpty Dumpty in Pauls Valley. He then owned his own store and was also a cattleman, horseman and involved in construction. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, one grandson, Jason LeRoy Rushing, and one sister, Virginia Bridges.

Survivors include three daughters and one son-in-law, Clistia Rushing, Chickasha; Susan and Jared Ricco, Rancho Santa Margarita, California; Jamie Lehman, Tecumseh, Oklahoma; four sons and two daughters-in-law, Jody Lehman, Pauls Valley; Gary Don and Lynn Lehman, Greensburg, Kansas; Eric W. Lehman, Chickasha; Bryan and Elizabeth Lehman, Chickasha; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Leo and Jane Lehman, Sherman, Texas; Jerry and Norma Lehman, Pauls Valley; nine grandsons, Caleb Lehman; Jason Rushing, Nathan Rushing, Jesse

Rushing, Vincenzo Ricco, Giordono Ricco, Danny Lehman, Shawn Lehman and Justin Lehman; one great-granddaughter, Cassy Lehman.

Funeral services were held March 20 at Cooper Funeral Chapel with the Rev. Bobby Roe, Trinity Baptist Church, officiating. Burial was at the Tribbey Cemetery.



Randy King Jones II

Randy King Jones II died on Saturday, October 30, 1999 in Shawnee, Oklahoma. Randy was 18 years old, having been born on March 30, 1981 in Shawnee to Randy King and Judy Kay (Wolfe) Jones.

Randy was reared in Shawnee, where he attended school and played football in junior high and high school. He was a member of the Bethel Acres Assembly of God church. He enjoyed working on his car and traveling.

Randy was preceded in death by his grandmothers, Elsie Mae Wolfe and Imogene Jones, and uncle, Stevie Wolfe. He is survived by his mother, Judy Jones of Shawnee; his father, Randy King Jones, Sr., of Roanoke, Texas; his sisters, Jennifer Jones, of the home, and Kaydie and Randa Jones, both of Dallas, Texas; his brother, Brian Wolfe of Shawnee; his step-brother, Deken Oldham of Prague; his step-sister, Dakotah Oldham of Dallas, Texas; his grandmother, Doris Wolfe of Shawnee; and, his grandfather, Carl Gourley of Coweta, Oklahoma.

Randy is also survived by two nieces, Randee and Kelsey; one nephew, Talon; and by numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

The family has designated the Randy King Jones, II Memorial Fund at Arvest Bank as appropriate for memorials.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, October 30, 1999 at Bethel Acres Assembly of God with the Rev. Lonnie Hurst, pastor of Bethel Acres Assembly of God, officiating. Randy Jones was buried at Resthaven Memorial Park in Shawnee.

HOW-NI-KAN PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

The HowNiKan is published by the Business Committee of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation with offices at 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801.

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The new Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal membership cards, featuring the member's photos, have proved very popular. At bottom left, Jack Wooldridge poses for his ID card photo. Tribal members of all ages are turning out for regional meetings to obtain their cards. The new cards will facilitate Festival 2000 registration and gathering of information that will help tribal leaders make decisions to improve the Festival.



Tribal families closer to reliable water source

Rural Water District No. 3 continues making progress toward bringing a water supply to much of rural south Pottawatomie County. More than 100 Citizen Potawatomi families live in the area and will benefit directly. Because of that, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation has committed \$1.1 million in federal grants to the water district project.

Contracts to have RWD #3 purchase water from Oklahoma City have been approved and signed by the Oklahoma City Water Trust Authority and Oklahoma City City Council, according to John Robinson, chairman of the water district's board of directors.

The water will be obtained from the Oklahoma City-Lake Atoka aqueduct at the treatment plant southeast of Macomb, Robinson said.

He explained that when the water district receives the signed documents, they will be transmitted to Rural Development U.S.D.A. for approval. Rural Development U.S.D.A. is one of the governmental entities helping fund the project.

"This is a major step toward finaliz-

ing preparations for construction of the water system," Robinson said.

The third anniversary meeting of the water district's members, held Feb. 26 in Maud, drew 130 and "was very successful," Robinson said.

In his keynote address, John A. 'Rocky' Barrett, chairman of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, brought water district members up to date on the Nation's impact on economic development in south Pottawatomie County.

Also during the meeting, RWD #3 members re-elected directors Jerry Bourassa (a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation), Bill Shannon, and Robinson for three-year terms.

Robinson reported that progress toward construction of water delivery lines continues. "Final planning by Brown Engineering of Stillwater is nearly complete," he said. "Maps are being prepared for final closing and contractors' bidding the project."

While the deadline for joining the water district is long past, Robinson said that area residents continue to ask if they can be included.

"There has been considerable increasing interest by persons wanting to join the water system," Robinson said.

"Homeowners can still join the system, especially if they happen to live on a proposed water line.

"This can be done by making an appointment and paying the \$500 membership fee if they do so prior to closing of the loan and grant," he explained.

Those who will not be on the proposed line can submit applications and pay the membership fees, which will be held in abeyance until after the bidding for construction is complete, Robinson said.

"Extensions of water lines and upgrades of the system will be considered at this time and if supplemental funding is required, then this can be applied for," according to the chairman.

Easement maps are completed to show where easements have been granted and where the district will be forced to use the rights of way of county, state, and federal roads for the water lines, Robinson said.

"Securing of private easements continues to be of major importance to the district," he said. "Private easements help ensure uninterrupted service as opposed to the hazards faced in road rights of way."

He encouraged anyone who has not signed an easement to call the water district office at 405-383-2571 between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, or Fridays.

The district's officers, engineer, and legal counsel have met with representatives of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and the Housing and Urban Development Department to discuss a \$300,000 grant for the district's construction plans.

"This is another step toward closing and bidding by contractors," Robinson said.

Approval of the water treatment plant and district business office has been completed. "This is a requirement of the Commerce Department in preparation for the final closing and acquisition of this property," Robinson said.

Tribal member honored by Army Reserve

Captain Paul R. Rosewitz, USAR, Assistant Professor of Military Science at the ROTC Battalion of Kemper Military Junior College, Boonville, Missouri, has been selected to receive the Major General Strom Thurmond Award as the Army Reserve outstanding junior officer of the year.

The announcement was made in Washington, D.C., during the Reserve Officer Association Mid-Winter Conference in January 2000. Capt. Rosewitz is a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. He represents the Reserve Officer Association, Department of Missouri.

The ROA Army section announced the nomination process and scheduled competition last summer to select the top Army Junior Officer (Lieutenants and Captains) of the Reserve and National Guard throughout the nation. From among the thirty-seven nominees submitted by Major Reserve Commands around the nation, the Army Executive Committee selected ten finalists in December 1999.

The ten candidates appeared before the final selection committee of five officers. Brig. Gen. John Schuster of Minnesota served as President of the selection committee. After interviews with each soldier and considerable deliberation, Captain Rosewitz was selected for the top honor.

All ten candidates were recognized and presented plaques at the Mid-Winter Army Section Luncheon. At that event, Brig. Gen. Robert J. Winzinger, USAR, ROA National Vice-President (Army) and Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Plewes, USA, Chief, Army Reserve presented the Thurmond Award to Captain Rosewitz.

Captain Rosewitz also received a commander's coin from the Honorable Louis Caldera, Secretary of the Army, in a separate ceremony.



Captain Rosewitz receives the award from Major General Thomas Plewes, Chief of the Army Reserve, while his wife, Nancy, and Brigadier General Winzinger look on. (Photo by Kemper Army ROTC.)

In 1986, Captain Rosewitz, a native of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was commissioned a Second Lieutenant through the ROTC Early Commissioning Program at Tulsa University. He holds a Bachelor of Science from Mid-America Nazarene University and is a master's degree candidate at American Military University.

Captain Rosewitz is a member of the Active Guard and Reserve Program of the U.S. Army Reserve. He has recently received orders to report to the U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Command in St. Louis, Missouri to assume duties as a training officer.

His fourteen years of military service includes command of Delta Battery, 1st Battalion, 89th Regiment, Field Artillery, Tulsa, Oklahoma; aide-de-camp to the commander of the 95th Division, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and brigade assistant operations officer, 402nd Brigade headquarters, Lawton, Oklahoma.

Captain Rosewitz is a graduate of the field artillery officer basic and advanced courses at Fort Sill, Oklahoma and the Combined Arms Services Staff School, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. He is the recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster, Army Reserve Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters, and the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara. He also served as a Congressional Intern to U.S. Senator Don Nickles of Oklahoma in 1984.

Captain Rosewitz is the son of tribal member Douglas Rosewitz, Mounds, Oklahoma and the grandson of tribal member Margaret Rosewitz of Tulsa. He is a descendant of Sheriff William Trousdale. He and his wife Nancy reside in Boonville, Missouri with their daughters Emily, Kathryn, and Elizabeth.

Nine families in Festival spotlight

(Continued From Page 1)

the area and paid the ultimate price.

BEAUBIEN: One of the early families was that of Mador Beaubien who married Theres LaFramboise who was allotted in the new reservation. Her father, Joseph LaFramboise, was one of the famous Chicago chiefs. She saw all three Potawatomi homelands and suffered the losses of all three removals Indiana, Kansas, and Oklahoma.

BERTRAND: One of our largest families, it includes LaRue, Richstatter, Upton, Shoeman, Higbee, and many other allotted families that came here from 1868 to 1890. The original Joseph Bertrand was a non-Indian who married the famous Madeline, daughter of Chief Topenabee, whose statue is in Chicago.

BOURBONNAIS: Antoine Bourbonnais and his wife Mary (Anderson) founded the Quaker Church that still stands as the tribal chapel. It had a hidden room upstairs that could only be accessed from an outside window that was rumored to have hidden Jesse James and his brother Frank from the law. The Bourbonnais named their sons Jesse James Bourbonnais and Frank Bourbonnais.

OGEE: A very large family that started with the marriage of a Potawatomi woman from the

Weld family to an Ogee. It includes the Cummings, Brandt, and Downing families. One of the reservations early physicians was an Ogee. The present Chairman of the Prairie Potawatomi, Mamie Rupnick, is also an Ogee.

PETTIFER: The original Pettifer was an Indian agent from Kansas who married Elizabeth LeTendre, a Potawatomi woman. One of our most artistic families, it features the famous sculptor Denny Haskew and his mother, Lou, the painter. The family opened the Pettifer School in the 1870s on the reservation, one of the first three schools formed after we moved here. Jackie Taylor, a member of the Oregon Legislature, is a Pettifer.

TOUPIN: Mary Margaret Mack, the Potawatomi Indian woman who married the Frenchman Amable Toupin, did not want her allotment, so the government gave it to her husband. She pined for Kansas and died in childbirth soon after the allotment years. The family includes the Trousdale, Martel, Neddeau, Chilson, and Tarkington families. The famous frontier lawman, William Billie Trousdale, was the famous winner of the shootout with the Christian Brothers gang of robbers and horse thieves in 1895.

YOTT: The name began as Hyott. One Jacques Hyott married Madeline Vieux, the daughter of Jacques Vieux, a Frenchman, and Angilique Vieux, a Potawatomi woman. The Yott family is related to the Juneau, Vieux, and Melot families. They settled in the Sacred Heart area and had allotted land next to the monastery and school. Hyott was one of the original seven families that traveled down from Kansas to select the reservation in 1866. They got their land certificates in 1867 and their allotments in 1877. The name Wano was shortened from Ship-she-wano. Hereditary Chief Frank Wano, who passed away in 1989, was a descendant of Peter Ship-she-wano. There is a plaque in Indiana which reads: "In memory of Chief Shipshewana and his band of Pottawattamie Indians, removed from this reservation Sept. 4, 1838 and escorted to Kansas by a company of soldiers. One year later the heartbroken chief was allowed to return to his old camp grounds on the banks of beautiful Shipshewana Lake, where he died in 1841. Ship-She-Wah-No in Indian language means to have vision of a lion." The Wano family consists of the names of DeLonais, Bruno, Navarre and Rhodd.

CPN trust funds investment program proves successful

Nearly three years ago, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation re-claimed control of investment of its trust fund assets from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

This is money set aside for investment from federal land claims settlements. Each year, the Nation has used interest earnings from this endowment to purchase eyeglasses, dentures, and hearing aids for tribal members and provide college scholarships for them. Some of the interest earned has also been used to purchase land and to maintain tribal property.

However, in recent years, the Nation's business ventures have been profitable enough to fund these programs without having to use the interest from this endowment. This re-investment of the earnings has allowed the principal to grow even faster.

At that time, in early 1997, the Nation invested that \$3.5 million, using a partnership set up through its own First National Bank and Trust Co. and involving Union Bank, a multi-billion dollar Chicago bank.

"In the fifteen years prior to our assuming control of the trust funds money," explained Gene Bruno, Potawatomi Nation Secretary-Treasurer, "the BIA averaged an annual rate of return of 4.5%."

That included an era in which the prime rate for loans was more than 14 percent. "There were years in which they lost money on our behalf," Bruno said.

Because the annual rate of return had been so low under the BIA's stewardship, the entire amount of interest earnings was being spent each year. That prevented growth of the endowment fund – the principal being held in a BIA account.

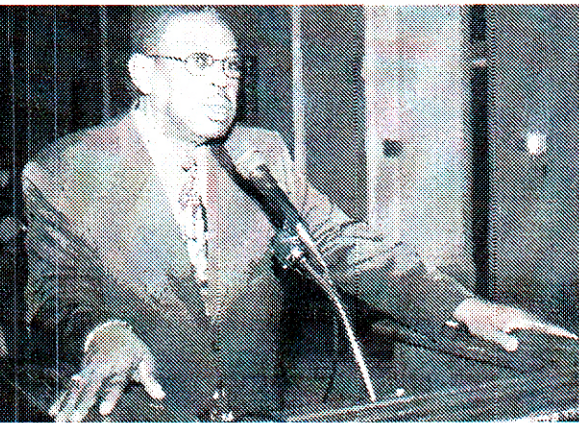
Return on investment has been good enough since the Nation assumed control of its own destiny to allow the principal to double to approximately \$7 million by November 1999. Currently, there is just a bit less than \$8 million in principal.

"We averaged an annual rate of return of about nine percent in that period," Secretary-Treasurer Bruno reports. The principal is invested in a balanced fund of equities and money market cash equivalents. The fund is designed so, if the equities decline in value, the bonds' value will increase.

"It is a hedged fund, in that regard," Bruno explained. "This fund has been very successful, averaging a 29.7% return on our investment. We are very pleased."

Just two other tribal governments have removed their trust funds from BIA oversight.

Native American Business Day



The Citizen Potawatomi Nation had a strong presence at the recent Native American Business Day at the Oklahoma State Capitol. The event was held to showcase Native American businesses' products and services. In photos (clockwise, beginning at upper left): A bird's eye view of the CPN booth; Sen. Kelly Haney, a member of the Seminole Nation, addresses participants. Carol Clay Levi and Margaret Zientek man staff the CPN booth. Gene Bruno, CPN Secretary-Treasurer (second from right), had a booth for his company, ALKO Enterprises, a wholesale medical supplies company. Mr. Bruno is interviewed by State Capitol Reporter Tim Granahan of Oklahoma City's KTOK-AM. State Rep. Don Ross addressed Indian Business Day participants on a lawsuit challenging a state government contracting law that benefits Indian and other minority owner companies. Neal McCaleb, State Transportation Director and a member of the Chickasaw Nation, spoke at the event.



From The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Mailbox



Cody Dikeman

How Ni Kan,

I am writing in regard to my son Cody W. Dikeman. He is the great-grandson of John and Mary (Vieux) Tomey and grandson of Pauline (Tomey) Eisenberger. After graduating high school in Caney, Kansas, he went on to Haskell Indian Nations University.

Over the years he developed interest in law enforcement, which led him to research an internship at the F.B.I. Academy. The academy took 3,500 applicants and choose 75 to attend the summer 1997 session. Cody was one of the 75 chosen. He had to pass several tests and a background check to qualify. His internship was in Virginia.

When he graduated Haskell he earned Haskell's Presidential Scholarship. He then continued his education at Wichita State University. The scholarships were a great help. He is thankful for one from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Each year the Secret Service awards three scholarships to U.S. students, and Cody was one of them. He graduated W.S.U. with a criminal justice degree. He then immediately joined the Marine Reserves and completed boot camp in 1999. He continued training for 2 more months. In February he was promoted to Lance Corporal.

This summer he will join the Scottsdale, Arizona Police Department. He would like to continue his education and in 3 to 5 years move on to a federal agency.

Thank you,

**Marcia (Vieux) Williams
Wichita, Kansas**

Dear Scholarship Committee:

Thank you sincerely for the support you've given me this semester and last. The scholarship and housing stipend ease the financial load that comes from being in graduate school as a single parent. Also, knowing my tribe contributes such a generous award gives me a sense of emotional support and inspiration during the tougher times.

After completing the master's of science degree and passing state and national board exams, I look forward to serving the tribal community and others in the role of primary health care provider as a Licensed Acupuncturist and Herbalist. Thank you again for the honor.

Sincerely,

**Rhonda K. Bathurst
Berkeley, California**

Dear Scholarship Committee:

I am writing this letter to thank you for the scholarship granted to me from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Scholarship Committee. With the scholarship I received I was able to set up my computer for research purposes, help with living expenses and purchase much needed supplies to continue my spring semester at the Los Banos Campus-Merced Community College.

Many thanks and appreciation to the Scholarship Committee, especially John "Rocky" Barrett, Chairman; Gene Bruno, Treasurer; Mary Farrell, Scholarship Foundation; and my aunt Florence Foster for being so helpful in applying for the scholarship.

Thank you again and I am proud to be part of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, "People of the Place of the Fire."

Sincerely,

**Debbie Perez
Social Science Major
Los Banos, California**

Dear Mary Farrell and Potawatomi Nation,

The first thing that I want to do is to apologize for the delay of this thank you. My studies have been keeping me very busy as the upper level classes have become increasingly difficult and time consuming. Even so, I am enjoying them and I am learning a lot. Thank you doesn't seem enough for the generous financial scholarship support that I am blessed to receive from your organization. Your scholarship renewal each semester has enabled me to continue my college education which I am so fortunate to be able to achieve.

There is not a day that goes by that I don't think about this scholarship and how much I benefit from it. I hope this letter finds you well and I will be looking forward to meeting Chairman Rocky Barrett and Hilton Melot among others at the Midwest Regional Meeting on May 15, 2000. I attended last year and found it to be both informative and enjoyable. I will continue to do my best and you can be sure that I will make the most of my scholarship.

Megwetch,

**Tim De Coursey Jr.
Topeka, Kansas**

Thank you so much for providing the "How Ni Kan". Before my father died, he and I would look forward to each issue. I know he felt a sense of family and belonging. Recently, I was stirred by Laura Bathurst's article. I wished my father could have read it. Thank you,

Kathy M. Richstatter

Dear Scholarship Committee:

I would like to thank the committee for the scholarship my daughter Carla Vaughn received last semester. It was very needed and well appreciated. Thank you for helping our household, to relieve some financial burden.

Thank You,

Robin Harvey

Editor:

During the last few elections for Chairman of the Citizen Potawatomi Tribe any qualified member could have run for office. Some did. Rocky Barrett was elected each time. I now ask where the Tribe would be today if Rocky had not won. Would we be one of the most advanced tribal governments of all the recognized tribes? Would we have successful enterprises including a bank, a radio station, stores, entertainment centers, golf courses and restaurants? Would we have the latest technology, including a

presence on the Internet and even an Internet Provider Service?

Possibly we would have made all these gains, because the Business Committee shares a lot of the credit for guiding the Tribe. As a member living far away from the center, I appreciate the Tribe reaching out, through Regional Meetings, making members feel a part of the tribal family.

On a personal level, I am glad I no longer have to explain to acquaintances that I am not an Indian Cber. We have changed the Citizen Band name to a dignified and meaningful title denoting a sovereign nation. When I review the actions taken by the present Chairman I conclude that they were visionary, and that they reflect the unique ability of Chairman Barrett. I look forward to attending our huge family celebration at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Festival this year.

Sincerely,

**Jack Wooldridge
Santa Cruz, CA**

(This letter was addressed to Chairman John A. Barrett:)

Hi Brother,

Just received. this letter today. I cried when I read it. This is the part of my work that is the most rewarding. If I can just touch a nerve or the heart of one person and get a response like this, I feel blessed and honored.

Am copying word for word ... maybe we could get this in the HowNiKan?

This is from 91-year-old Rowena O. Swank of Elgin, IL

Dear Mrs. Oden:

I found your name in an article in *Native Peoples* and also noted you belong to the Potawatomi Tribe of Indians.

They owned all the land upon which my city stands ... in fact, land to the Lake Michigan. The Fox River bisects my Elgin and was a land full of wonderful oaks, many creeks flowing into the Fox and the river with pure water and many fish. It must have been a beautiful land.

I found this poem by a former Elginite in one of my issues of our Elgin Historical

Society newsletter and thought you might be interested in having a copy.

I also wish you the best for your restaurant. My husband (an artist) and I spent many interesting days in Santa Fe and would stay at the Harvey Inn. *If I remember it was the La Fonda.

My writing is not so good this morning. I think my 91 years are showing (her handwriting is beautiful!)

Most sincerely,

Rowena Swank

P.S. Maybe of interest to you — a dinner of frog legs or pork or beef loin cost 75 cents in the late 1930's and 1940's.

*(The old LaFonda Hotel was the Harvey Inn in the '30s and '40s. Young women came from all around to train as "Harvey Girls," the waitresses. It was the premier hotel of the west.)

BEYOND THIS HILL

The Fox River Valley

by Rosemary Schmitz Pendery
We are the Neshnabeck, "People of the Valley"

at peace with the land, the water, and the sky.

Today our valley belongs to you the winding Fox, river of live runs no longer among the forests and prairies

as it did in the days of our youth. We are Neshnabeck. Today we travel the wind

with moccasins that leave no mark. But we are near when a fish jumps above the river or when trees whisper of elk, wolf and deer and a people who once lived among them.

Today, where smoke once rose from our teepees your many dwellings now stand. Your feet now walk above our ancestral home...

Yes, you have had your victory. We were a proud courageous people we Neshnabeck of the Potawatomi band.

Our tribe, like the smoke from our teepees, has long ago risen to its eternal home deep within the heart of the Spirit of Greatness.

Our love for this valley remains true and as the river flows with many waters.

May your love also remain true for love is life and life is the heartbeat of all peoples yet to dwell beyond this hill in the mighty Fox River Valley.

I hope you enjoy this as much as I.

With love,

**Loretta Barrett Oden
Santa Fe, NM**

Tribal enterprises help growth of CPN scholarship program

Fueled by the success of its owned-and-operated businesses, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation continues enhancing its investment in its members' futures.

In 1996, the Nation distributed a bit more than \$17,000 to its members in the form of education scholarships. 73 students benefited from that assistance.

In just three years, scholarship funding has increased more than tenfold. The number of Potawatomi receiving assistance in building a more prosperous future for themselves and their families has increased by 385 percent.

Hilton Melot, CPN Business Committeeman and Scholarship Committee Chairman, said, "For 1999, the Nation invested \$183,667 in members' futures through scholarships. This assistance went to 355 students."

After one Scholarship Committee meeting this year, 98 students had been approved for \$60,000 in assistance. Additionally, 72 of those scholarship recipients received housing assistance.

In 1997, The Citizen Potawatomi Nation distributed \$35,000 to 130 scholarship recipients.

In 1998, 266 tribal members got \$130,000 in scholarship assistance.

"In the past four years, we've come a long, long way in providing this type of assistance," Melot said.

The Nation's scholarships had been for \$250.00 per semester per student. "In 1999, we increased that to \$300.00 per



Business Committeeman Hilton Melot Reports On The Scholarship Program At A Recent Regional Council

semester," Melot said. "In addition, we now offer assistance with student's housing costs."

That brought the total for a Citizen Potawatomi student's scholarship to approximately \$1150.00 per school year. That improved for the 1999-2000 school year as the housing assistance doubled from \$50.00 per month to \$100.00. For a nine-month school year, the housing assistance is now at \$900.00 per year.

"The Nation provides scholarships for both college or university and vocational-technical school study, Melot explained. "We have also

begun the Adult Continuing Education (ACE) Program in conjunction with St. Gregory's University."

ACE allows tribal members and employees, particularly those who have earned a significant number of college credit hours, to earn college credit for their life experiences. ACE classes meet once each week at the Potawatomi Nation headquarters.

Students interested in learning more about or applying for Citizen Potawatomi Nation education assistance can contact Patsy Cooper at 405-275-3121 or 800-880-9880.

WELCOME, NEW CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION ENROLLEES!

The following tribal members were enrolled under previous guidelines:

Carter, Charles Isaac
Clark, Jr., William Henry
Doty, Jean Richards Schmechel
Fitzgerald, Richard Allan
Goodwin, Glen Alan
Graves, Terry Ann
Guess, Grady Lee
Kueneman, Kyle Eric
Parrish, Michael John
Sale, Harold Keith

The following tribal members were enrolled under descendency:

Arnold, Jodi Bryanne
Baptiste, Brandon Jeffrey
Bell, Madeleine Emily
Black, Jazmine Temisa
Brown, Erica Breanna
Brown, Shaun Nokose
Brown, Tyler Lee
Brunin, Gregory Mathias
Brunin, Laura Catherine
Brunin, Michael David
Bruno, Ashlynn Nicole
Byers, Rebecca Jo
Cavender, Mika Renea
Charbonneau, Brandi Bryanne
Charbonneau, Brett Vincent
Charbonneau, Heather Christine
Charbonneau, Jessie Ann
Charbonneau, Lorraine Francis
Cheatwood, Andrew Rice
Clinton, Cori Ann
Clinton, Dakota Queen
Clinton, Jerryd Thomas
Clinton, Julia Ann Queen
Craig, Brettan Josiah Whitefield
Craig, Hilary Noelle
Craig, Kyle Spencer Edwards
Davis, Matthew Ryan
Dolan, Shelly Rena Guenther
Durdal, Mason Daniel
Elverum, Rhonda Jean Gillen
Estes, Shannon Rae
Estes, Tyrell James
Farrell, Marlana Roellen-Nell
Finks, Cheyanne Rose
Fitzgerald, Richard Scott
French, Summer Sagewen
Giffin III, Robert Eugene
Gilmore, Taylor Rose
Gray, Samantha Marie
Greer, Cameron Dale
Haddad, Alannah
Haddad, Devan
Haddad, Erin Fitzgerald
Hardin, Logan Alexander
Hardin, McKenzie Denae
Hembree, Apryl Suzanne
Hembree, Blayze Ross
Higbee, Laurel Christina
Higbee, Michael Lee
Howell, Chad Lawson
Howell, Kristen Denease
Howell, Matthew Lynn
Hudson, Brenden T.
Huff, Christopher Jonas
Hughes, Benjamin James
Hutson, Timothy James
Ice, Jacob Anthony
Infield, Elizabeth Mae

Infield, Nicholas Edward
Johnson, Emma Rose
Johnson, Tessa Leigh
Jones, Brandon Thomas
Jones, Breanna Kelly
Kadomoto, Wendy Michelle
Kouplen, Chasity Dawn Northcross
Lartz, Amber Michelle
Lartz, Jennifer Lynn
Long, Brandy Dawn
Long, Krystal Li
Lyle, Anthony Shaw
Martin, Jeremy Ray
Martin, Randall Chase
Matusz, Alexis Renae
Maxwell, Jarad Wayne Andrew
McClure, Brooke Haley
McLaughlin, Tara Kathlene
Melot, Jake Thomas
Melot, Kimberly April Elizabeth
Melot, Samantha Amber
Melot, Steven J. Thomas
Mitchell, Drew Allen
Montgomery, Heather Ann
Morrison, Sarah Renee Mercer
Motley, Brooklyn Jade
Moyer, Caden Nolan
Moyer, Rawley Cal
Murrell, Joshua Wade
O'Connor, Evelyn Judith Sanders
O'Connor, Sophia Therese Sanders
Parrish, Allison Elizabeth
Pawpa, Taylor Riann
Pearman, Cole Wayne
Pearman, Shelby Lane
Place, Brandi DeeAnn
Queen, John Mark
Sanchez, James Alfreed
Sanders, Jordan Rashawn
Schimmel, Vernon D.
Shaw, Dakota Joseph
Shawn, Cheyenne Rachelle
Shawn, Dalton Wade
Shawn, Darryl Quaide
Shawn, Jamie Lee
Shawn, Zachary Steven
Slattum, Jennifer Dylan Guenther
Smith, Franke Leanne
Snyder, Garrett Patrick
Soldan, Mary Elizabeth
Staller, Devin Charlie Howard
Starr, Bobby Lane
Swart, Sheena Annette
Swiggum, Lindley Cheryl
Thompson, Jacob Ryan
Thompson, Jana Beth Cranfill
Turley, John O'Neill
Turner, Derek Justin
Turner, Lori Ann McGuire
Turner, Megan Brittany
Ulrich, Verlon Michael
Wagner, Jonathon James
Wano, Autumn Lacey
Ward, Christopher Lee
Weishan, Jarrod Joseph
Weishan, Justin Robert
Wells, Shelby Raye
Wells, Sydney Kaye
Whipple II, John Orville
Whittle, Michael Philip
Wilson, Kathryn Glatis Johnson
Woods, Misti Lou

Nuttie elected to OIHH executive board

The Oklahoma Institute of Indian Heritage (OIHH), a statewide consortium of 31 tribes and a statewide non-profit corporation, was formed for the purpose of preserving the culture, traditions and history of Oklahoma Indian tribes. The OIHH is the sponsor of the "Tribal Leader Institute," a leadership training project for tribal leaders.

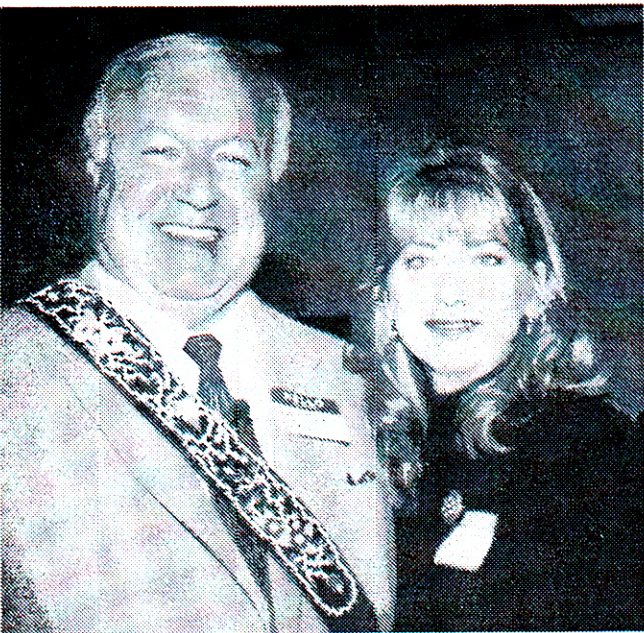
The OIHH Board elected as the leader for the next three years, Mr. Kinsel Lieb, Secretary / Treasurer of the Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma. Mr. Lieb has been involved in Ponca tribal politics for twenty-five (25) years, many

of those years as an elected official. Kinsel is a graduate of Northern Oklahoma College in Tonkawa, Oklahoma. Mr. Lieb and his family are active participants in the Ponca culture, he is a charter member of the renowned Yellow Hammer Singing group and is a Ponca war dancer.

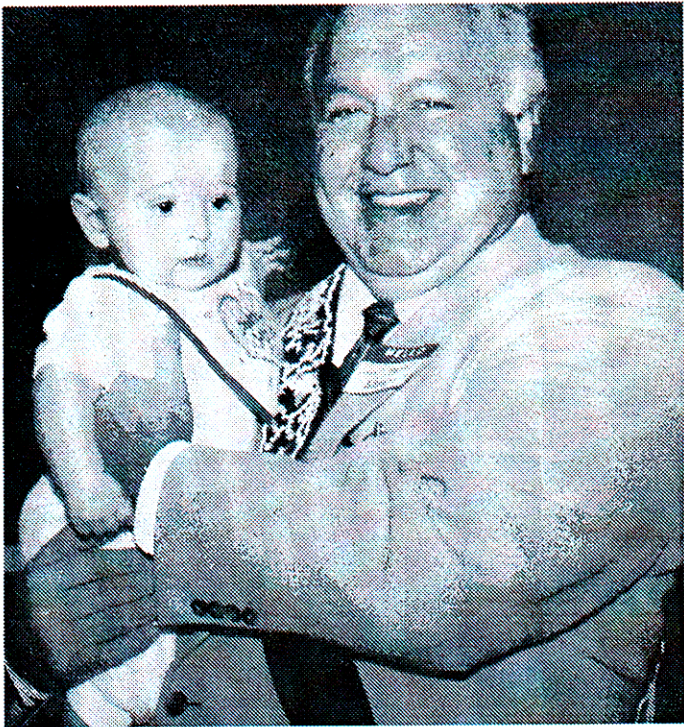
Others elected to the Executive Committee are Mr. Curtis Zunigha, Representative, Vice Chairman; Mr. Russell Ellis, Secretary, Secretary, Absentee Shawnee, Secretary; Mr. Robert Chapman, President, Pawnee Tribe, Treasurer; Mr. James

Pedro, Chairman, Cheyenne / Arapaho Tribes, Member at Large; Ms. Sue Folsom, Representative, Choctaw Nation, Member at Large; Ms. Brenda Myers, Vice-Chairman, Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, Member At Large; Mr. Michael Darrow, Representative, Fort Sill Apache Tribe, Member at Large; Mr. Keith Yackeyonny, Comanche Tribe, Member at Large; Ms. Carol Nuttle, Pawnee Tribe, Member at Large. Ms. Nuttle is the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Self-Governance, Grants & Contracts Coordinator.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA R



Left: Gail Reddin of Hermosa Beach, CA traveled farthest to attend the regional meeting, more than 400 miles. Right: Christina Marie Madeira, at about four months old, was the youngest enrolled Potawatomi at the meeting.



Left: At 80 years old, Nadine Rhodd Smith was the Wisest Potawatomi at the meeting. Right: Tribal members, young and older alike, enjoyed the festivities.



Left: Billy Dan Higbee's "The Mouse" took Third Place in the Art Contest. Right: "Kowanic" by Jack Wooldridge was the First Place winner in the art contest.



Business Committee members J.P. Motley (left) and Gene Bruno get an update on events in Northern California.

REGIONAL COUNCIL



Walter 'Ogi' Johnson entertained with beautiful flute music.



Tribal members Barbara Potter and Richard V. Johnson examine what must be a very interesting document.

Gary Lynn Melot of Oakley, CA and his family —wife Carrie and sons Jake Thomas (left) and Daniel Ray — pose for the How Ni Kan.



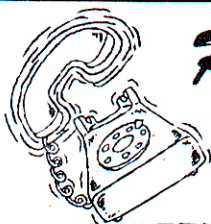
This tribal member is concentrating hard on his reading.



Jennifer Porter has retired from her position as Northern California Regional Representative. Here, she thanks CPN members for the memories.

J.P. Motley poses with tribal members Beatrice Molina (left) and Beatrice Chavira (left to right).





Regional Office Directory

REGION 1 - OREGON/IDAHO

REGION 2 - WASHINGTON

(INCLUDES ALASKA & HAWAII)

Roscoe "Rocky" Baptiste

Box 346, 525 Ivy Ave., Gervais, OR 97026
Local (503) 792-3744 • FAX (503) 792-3744
Toll-Free (800) 522-3744
e-mail: Region01@Potawatomi.org

REGION 3 - NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Thomas B. Finks

135 Finley St., Auburn CA 95603
Local (530) 887-8102 • FAX (530) 887-8102
1-800-874-8585
e-mail: Region03@potawatomi.org

REGION 4 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Jeremy Bertrand Finch

203 Bellefontaine St., Pasadena, CA 911052921
Local (626) 796-2008 • FAX (800) 432-2008
e-mail: Region04@Potawatomi.org

REGION 5 - SOUTHWEST

(INCLUDES ARIZONA & WESTERN NEW MEXICO)

Gene Lambert-Gast

P.O. Box 5905, Mesa, AZ 85211
Local (480) 668-0509 • FAX (480) 649-7443
Toll-Free (800) 452-8966
e-mail: Region05@Potawatomi.org

REGION 6 - COLORADO

(INCLUDES MONTANA, UTAH, WYOMING,
WESTERN NEBRASKA, WESTERN KANSAS)

Vacant

Contact

Tribal Headquarters, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.,
Shawnee, OK 74801 • 1-800-880-9880

REGION 7 - NORTHERN TEXAS

(INCLUDES EASTERN NEW MEXICO)

Marjorie Hobdy

3132 Kathy Lane, Irving, TX 75060
Local (972) 790-3075 • Toll-Free (800) 742-3075
e-mail: Region07@Potawatomi.org

REGION 8 - SOUTHERN TEXAS

Lu Ellis

26231 Huffsmith-Conroe Rd., Magnolia, TX 77355
Local (281) 356-7957 • Toll-Free (800) 272-7957
e-mail: Region08@Potawatomi.org

REGION 9 - MIDWEST

(INCLUDES EASTERN NEBRASKA & EASTERN KANSAS)

Vacant

Contact

Tribal Headquarters, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.,
Shawnee, OK 74801 • 1-800-880-9880

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation is divided into different "Regional Offices" to help cover the extended membership across the nation. Originally labeled merely by region names, regional boundaries were established in late 1997 using the US Postal Service "3 digit" Zip code areas. Region '0' is generally considered Oklahoma while the other states that are not numbered currently do not have an official "Region" designator.

REGIONAL REPORTS

North Texas

Here in North Texas, it seems that winter made a very short appearance. We skipped Spring and have gone right on to summer. It was very warm today.

I spent the month of February preparing for and having surgery on my right shoulder. Now it is time for the physical therapy to resume. I have been through that from September to February. I am a wimp and I do a lot of complaining to the physical therapist. He is really a nice young man, but he expects me to work at regaining the use of my right arm. I thought he was going to do all of the work.

The phones and e-mail have been quiet. I have had some calls for information about medical care and I give out

what information I have. The Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas has opened a clinic for memory assessment and evaluation named Honoring Our Elders.

"Honoring our Elders" is a Satellite Clinic of the Alzheimer's Disease Center, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. UT Southwestern is my former employer and temp employer now.

Treatment is available, and calls for appointments can be made to 214-941-1050, metro 972-263-0313. A beautiful poster was prepared by UT Southwestern. These phone numbers can also be used to call for the other medical and dental services funded by Indian

Health Services and offered at the Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas.

Meetings are under way in Shawnee to plan for the Festival in June. I have been told there will be some changes to make everything go smoother. The dates for this event will be the last weekend in June, so mark your calendar.

I continue to receive calls regarding enrollment of children and grandchildren. Yes, you can enroll them. If you need a form give me a call and I will send it to you. Please, call if you have other questions. It's always good to hear from you and if I don't know the answer to your question, I will certainly try to find out for you.

— Marj Hobdy

Northwest

Hau Nikan,

Our Northwest Regional Meeting will be well upon us by the time you receive this newsletter. I am hoping for a large turnout, beautiful weather, and a large art display. Will you be the winner?

I have come across some very good information about what you, as Native Americans, need to know about Census 2000. The US Census is coming in middle March and early April.

And, it is important to our future generations that we are counted. The Census determines spending of billions of dollars of federal funding and our congressional representation. So, please fill out your Census questionnaires so tribes can get accurate numbers for tribal programs such as Head Start, Low Energy Assistance, Health & Human Services, Elder Care, and many others.

There are some other things to know when filling out the Census forms:

1. You need to mark "NO" to the "Are you Hispanic?" question if you want to be counted as an Indian.

2. If your house is bi-racial, the Indian adult of the house must be the first person listed on the form. Only if the Indian is the first person will the household be identified as an American Indian household.

3. In the "Race" box, you

might want to mark only that you are Indian. We do not know what the multiple race answer will do to our numbers or how that will affect Indian programs.

4. When you mark your tribe, you might want to mark only the tribe you are specifically enrolled or your principal tribe (their legal name). Many tribes are made up of many smaller bands and, listing the smaller bands might add to the confusion of exactly what tribe you are a member of.

5. The Census information is confidential. It is only a head count of all of us counted collectively to determine our communities needs statistics, like unemployment, housing, and education need statistics.

As a matter of law, your individual information cannot be released to any other governmental agency for any purpose. It is safe, good for the community, and O.K. to answer the Census.

Many Native Americans still experience high unemployment rate, poverty, and great housing needs. Accurate numbers are needed when tribes seek the funds to provide those services. The Census will help us get the numbers we need to eliminate the myths about Native American people.

I have been getting a lot of response to our Northwest Region Web Page. I have now

entered a genealogy page and any of you that are working on your family history may be interested. I can help a little with some of your name searches.

Be assured if you leave your e-mail address or if you sign the guestbook, I will try to answer as soon as possible. Seniors, don't forget to get your application in for financial aid early.

I hope to see you all at the beach in Lincoln City on April 15. Looking forward to a good day with all of you.

Pa Ma Pi (See you later),

— Rocky Baptiste

DONATIONS TO THE HowNikan

Mike & Christina McCurtain,
Topeka, KS - \$75

Enoch K. and Debra J.

Haney, Seminole, OK - \$10

Cherie L. Fabian,

Elyria, OH - \$25

Kathy Richstatter,

Wichita, KS - \$50

Joe Leclair,

Longview, Texas - \$10

Lucille Cartmill, Texas - \$10

Sandra Harris, N. Las Vegas,
Nevada - \$10

Louise Spencer,

Sherman, Texas - \$20

REGIONAL REPORTS

Northern California

Bosho, Niconi,

Greetings from Auburn in Northern California, the Gateway to the Sierras. First, thank you to all the people who have so warmly welcomed me as the new director for Region 3, and especially to Jennifer Porter for making the transition a smooth one. We all owe her and her family a huge debt of gratitude for their long hours and hard work on behalf of the CPN for the last several years!

After accepting the Director's position, I suddenly realized that it was only a few short weeks until the Regional Council meeting. Thank goodness that major decisions such as the meeting place and caterer had already been made, but there were still lots of things that needed attention.

Having never arranged anything this large before and still finding my way, at first, I was a little overwhelmed but the offers of help and support soon came streaming in. With that kind of support you know things will work out. And, work out they did. With the help of all the volunteers, our meeting was quite a success.

With more than 300 in attendance and a new meeting place that had never handled such a large crowd, we overcame the obstacles and we all had a great time.

It was wonderful to see so many beautiful entries in the Art Contest. I am confident that we have even more artists who will contribute next year. This year's first place award was won by _____, 2nd place was _____, and 3rd place went to _____.

One of the main events of the meeting, also the first time, was the issuing of the new photo ID cards for all tribal members at our Regional Meeting. With

Linda Capps and JT Summerlin leading the way, we were able to get cards issued to all tribal members before they headed for home.

I would like to pass along the thanks I received from Tribal Members to the Business Committee for making the trip to Stockton and taking the time and effort to set up the tribal gift shop and the presentation that was given by Rocky. Everyone found it very informative.

Entertainment was provided in the form of beautiful flute music played by Wally Johnson, a Forest Potawatomi. A special thanks to Wally and his family for coming and providing us with such special music.

Although attendees were polled and gave preference to the new Stockton area as opposed to the previous site, I am open to your suggestions for a location for next year. Please, though, don't wait too long before replying. We will have to reserve a place soon.

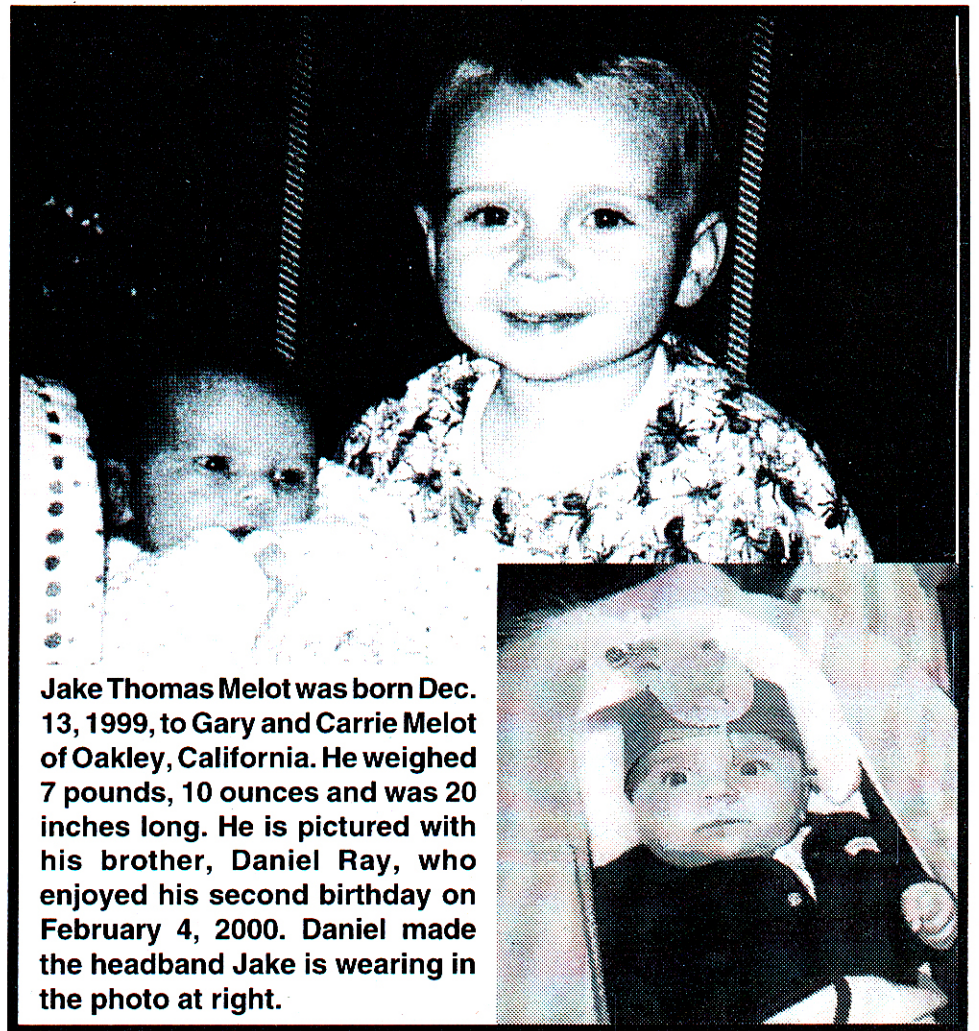
Also, if you did not get a chance to fill out a comment card, I would like to hear feedback from you along with any ideas you may have for our next Regional Meeting. Please feel free to contact me and we'll take a look together.

I also had a lot of folks ask me about reviving the regional picnic. We've had two of them previously here in Auburn and we had a great time. So, let me know and I'll do my best to make it happen. I still have a pine needle basket that needs to be finished.

Hope you take the time to go back to Oklahoma this June to participate in the Heritage Festival. After hearing the reports of last year's Festival, I can't wait. See you there!

Bamamine,

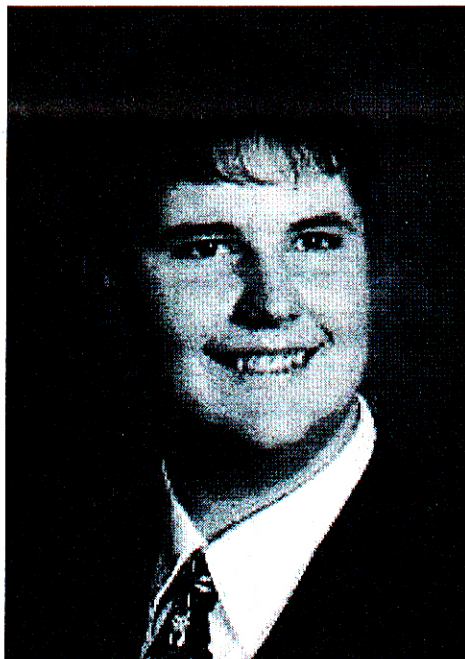
— Thom Finks



Jake Thomas Melot was born Dec. 13, 1999, to Gary and Carrie Melot of Oakley, California. He weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20 inches long. He is pictured with his brother, Daniel Ray, who enjoyed his second birthday on February 4, 2000. Daniel made the headband Jake is wearing in the photo at right.

Who's Who

Gregory Allen Cline, a Citizen Potawatomi tribal member, has been recognized in the 33rd Annual Edition of Who's Who Among American High School Students – 1999. Just 5% of the United States' high school students are honored in this manner each year. Who's Who Among American High School Students is a "trophy" awarded for academic excellence and related honors. Mr. Cline graduated in 1999 from Norman North High School in Norman, Oklahoma. He is the son of Freddie and Sharon Cline. He is the grandson of the late LaVern Trousdale Cline and the late Albert Cline. Cline is also the grandson of Gayle Pruett of Norman and the late Haskell Pruett. Cline is currently attending Oklahoma City Community College. He plans to attain a degree in Broadcast Journalism from the University of Oklahoma.



Potawatomi Art Contest

The Oklahoma and 'No Region' Art Competitions will be held in the Long Room on May 20, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. Please bring your artwork to the Long Room that morning. For those who are unable to bring the actual piece of artwork, you may submit three photographs for each piece entered. For registration forms or for more information, please contact Dennette Bare at (405) 275-3121.



The Grand Prize Art Competition will be held on June 3, 2000. Entries for the Grand Prize Art Competition must be submitted no later than Wednesday, May 31, 2000. For more information, please contact Dennette Bare at (405) 275-3121.

ANNUAL ELECTION NOTICE

The annual tribal referendum and election will be held on June 24, 2000. Voting will be at the tribal complex the day of the election from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. Requests to vote an absentee ballot must be made by June 5, 2000. Requests for absentee ballots must be in writing and include the correct mailing address, roll number and legal signature of the

person making the request. A referendum budget to determine expenditures of accumulated interest from set-aside funds, as well as the election of tribal officials, will be on the ballot. Requests for tribal election ballots should be mailed to: Potawatomi Election Committee, P.O. Box 310, Tecumseh, OK 74873.



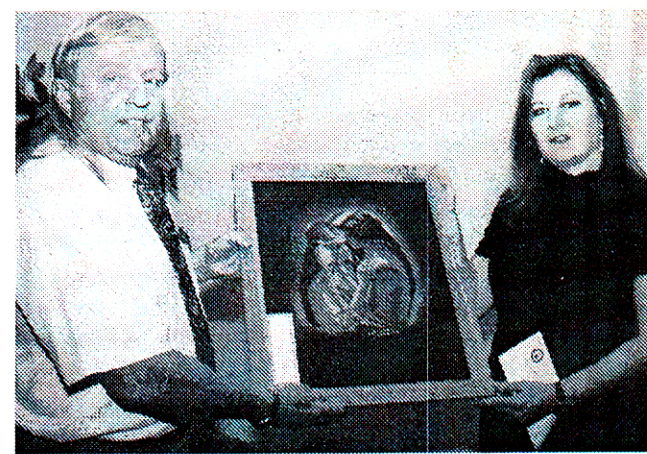
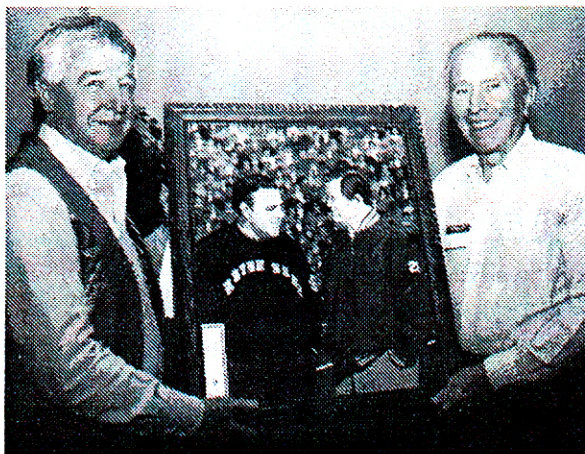
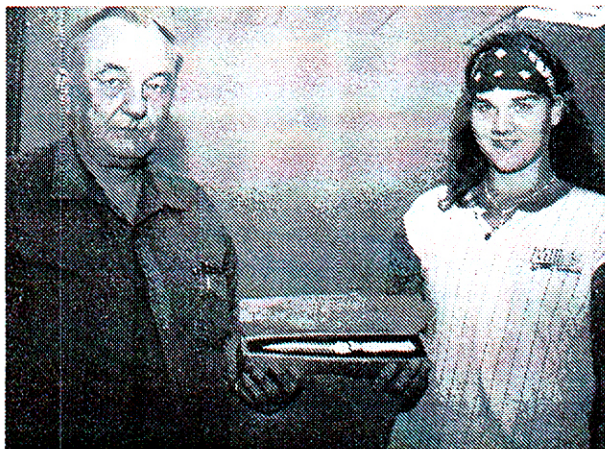
South Texas



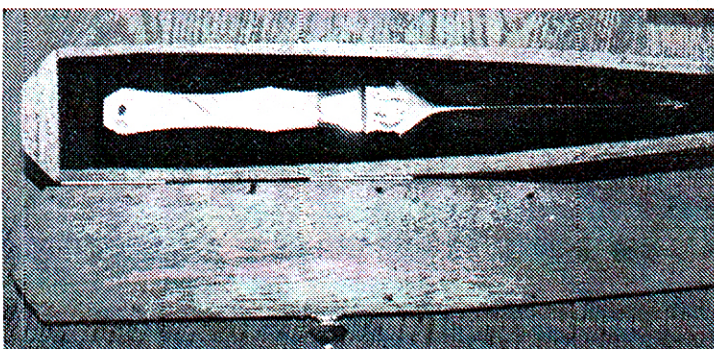
Ramona Bayless, left, at 79 was the wisest tribal member present for the South Texas Regional Council.



Randi Renee Rhodd of Magnolia, Texas, was the youngest enrolled tribal member present at age 13.



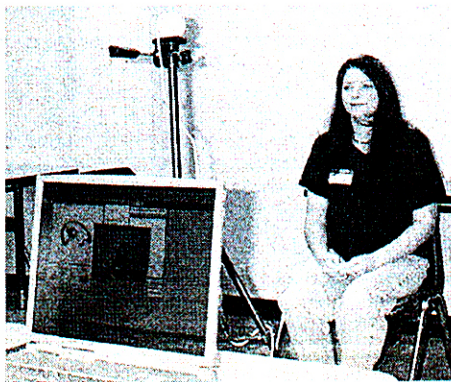
Left: Winning first place in the regional art contest was Shane Hansen of Katy, Texas, pictured with Committeeman Jerry Paul Motley. His pearl and steel knife is shown close up below. Center: Secretary-Treasurer Gene Bruno poses with second place winner Ray Herndon Jr. of Houston. At right, Committeeman Hilton Melot is pictured with Becky Hansen, the third place winner. Below right, John Ellis looks over the entries with Melot, Motley and Bruno.



Regional Council



Tribal member Tammy Machelle Andrews, right, was among those posing for the new photo ID cards.

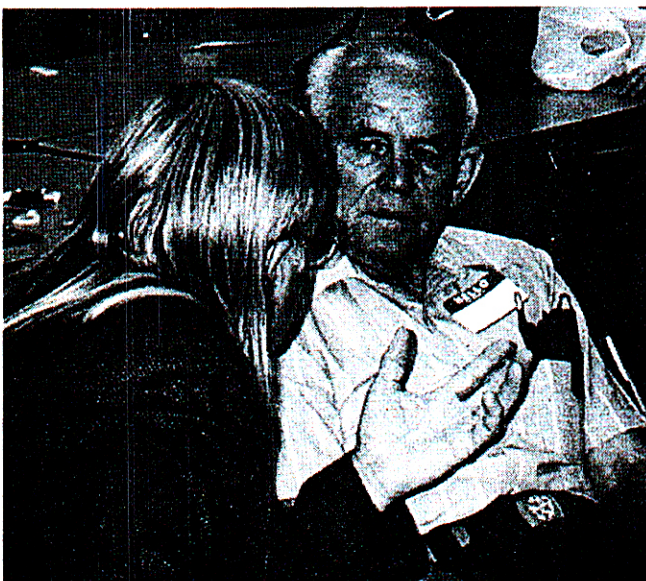


Gary Wayne Risinger and his family enjoyed the meeting.



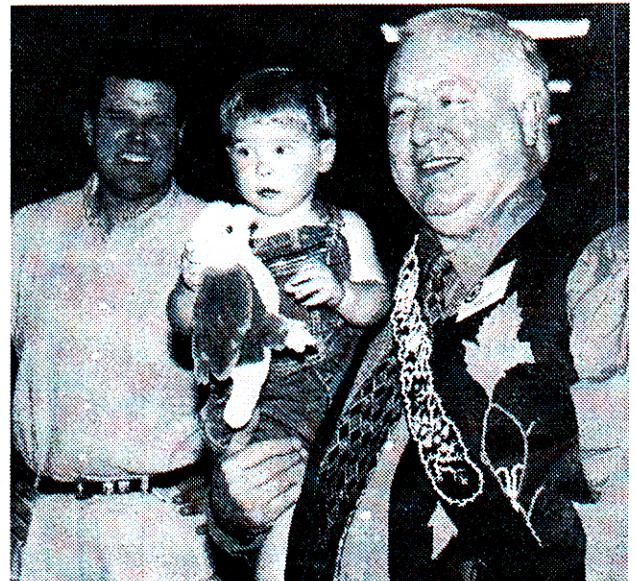
Gene Bruno explains the growth in the CPN trust fund account.

Potawatomi tribal members enjoy bargain hunting at the traveling tribal store.



Leonard Paul Rhodd of Houston discusses tribal business with Committeeman Hilton Melot

Chairman Rocky Barrett grabs a moment to pose with Brandon Blackwelder of Richmond, Texas, and Blackwelder's son.



Archery added to Festival contests

(Continued From Page 1)

families will celebrate Potawatomi Festival reunions: Anderson, Beaubien, Bertrand, Bourbonnais, Ogee, Pettifer, Toupin, Wano and Yott (see separate story by Chairman John A. Barrett beginning on Page 1).

Reaction indicates that the reunions were a special part of the 1999 Festival. Carmelita Wamego Skeeter, Vivian Wamego Murphy, and Jeanine Wamego Van Veen wrote, "(We truly enjoyed) meeting cousins we had never met before. We believe this wouldn't have happened if the big intertribal pow wow had taken place. There would have been too many people."

"As far as the Anderson descendants felt, it was great," wrote Christine (Anderson) Carlile and Edith Anderson. "There were 34 descendants of Charles David Anderson and Herman Edward Anderson, Sr." at the reunion.

Kenneth Peltier Sr. of Shawnee agreed with the Andersons. He wrote: "The family tents for reunions were great. I met some Peltiers from California, Arizona, Texas, and other places in Oklahoma — Peltiers I had never met. They saw the name on the tent and came in to get acquainted."

The Potawatomi Festival is three days of fun and cultural enrichment, with the goal of de-

veloping a Citizen Potawatomi tradition. It also gives members a reason to visit the tribal reservation and see first-hand what the Nation has achieved for them.

For 2000, festival organizers are adding archery, chess, and other contests to the already very busy agenda of competitions and activities.

Among the events being readied are a frybread-cooking contest, an 'Indian car' contest, and an All-Potawatomi Indian Dance on Saturday. The Saturday dance will feature cash prizes for Potawatomi winners in two dance categories: Men's Straight Dance and Women's Cloth. Eight places will be awarded prizes because each category is for dancers of all ages.

The winner of the 1999-00 Potawatomi Nation Art Contest will be honored on Saturday afternoon.

More than \$20,000 in cash and merchandise prizes will be available to Potawatomis, their family members, and CPN employees who enter the many, many competitions.

There will be: two golf tournaments (a Saturday morning scramble and night golf at 10:00 p.m. Saturday), bowling, horseshoes, softball and three-on-three basketball tournaments, and Women's Cloth and Men's Straight Dance Competition at the

Pow Wow Dance. (The dance competition will be open only to tribal members.)

Friday night's highlight will be a country and western dance. It will begin at 8 p.m. and will be held in a tent on the Festival grounds. The band will play until midnight or later, if participants want to continue dancing.

For Festival participants who do not want to enter a competition but would like to bowl, or shoot a round of golf, or play bingo, those facilities will be available for use by tribal members at no charge during the weekend.

Young tribal members will not want for activities. The Nation's swimming pool and playground, located at the tribal headquarters building, will be open and supervised for safety. Youngsters will have an opportunity to make arts and crafts items — and learn while they are having fun.

FireLake Bowling Center will have bumper bowling available for the younger children. Teens will enjoy the Bowling Center's 'Rock'n'Bowl' presentation Saturday evening.

A highlight of the final day of the gathering will church services at 9 a.m. Sunday at the pow wow grounds. Mike Wood, director of FireLake Golf Course, will deliver the message, and a gospel group is expected to sing.

CPN Positions Open

ADMINISTRATOR, HEALTH COMPLEX

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation is seeking an individual to assume the key role of Administrator of the Health Complex. Minimum five years executive level experience in a health care environment. Financial and analytical background desirable. Will be responsible for overseeing the development of the medical services and must possess superior interpersonal and leadership abilities. Master of Public Health or Business Administration required or commensurate experience in lieu of degree. The health facility is a designated Federally Qualified Health Center. Comprehensive benefits will include paid health insurance, annual and sick leave, 401k retirement plan. Please send resume or curriculum vitae to Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Shirli Eastep, Human Resource Director, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801. Closing Date: May 31, 2000.

BOWLING MANAGER

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation announces a Bowling Manager position available at the FireLake Entertainment Center. A Bachelor's Degree in Business is preferred, with a minimum of three years experience working in a related field. This position will be responsible for the organizing, developing, and controlling the operations and promotions of a bowling establishment. Duties will include: To plan, direct, and coordinate financial control, and business development programs. Hire and train all center personnel. Supervise daily business operations. Must have good computer skills, and have good knowledge of general business methods including financial, marketing, and personnel management. Must be able to handle a flexible full time schedule with no set hours. This is a full time position with excellent benefits. Indian preference applies, but not absolute. Please send resumes to Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Shirli Eastep, Human Resources Director, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr. Shawnee, OK 74801. Closing Date: May 19, 2000.

PUBLIC INFORMATION DIRECTOR

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation announces a Public Information Director position. A Bachelor's Degree in Communications or Journalism is preferred, with a minimum of three years experience working in a related field. This position will be responsible for the developing and disseminating positive information concerning the Nation's members, programs, owned and operated business enterprises, employees, and the Tribal elected officials. Computer knowledge is a must. This position will utilize news releases, photographs, news conferences, direct media contact, brochures, newsletters, radio and television public service announcements, paid advertisements, and Internet website postings as a means to get the information distributed. Must be available to photograph and report on events as determined by CPN Administration and program directors. This is a full time position with excellent benefits. Indian preference applies, but not absolute. Please send resumes to Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Shirli Eastep, Human Resources Director, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr. Shawnee, OK 74801. Closing Date: May 19, 2000.

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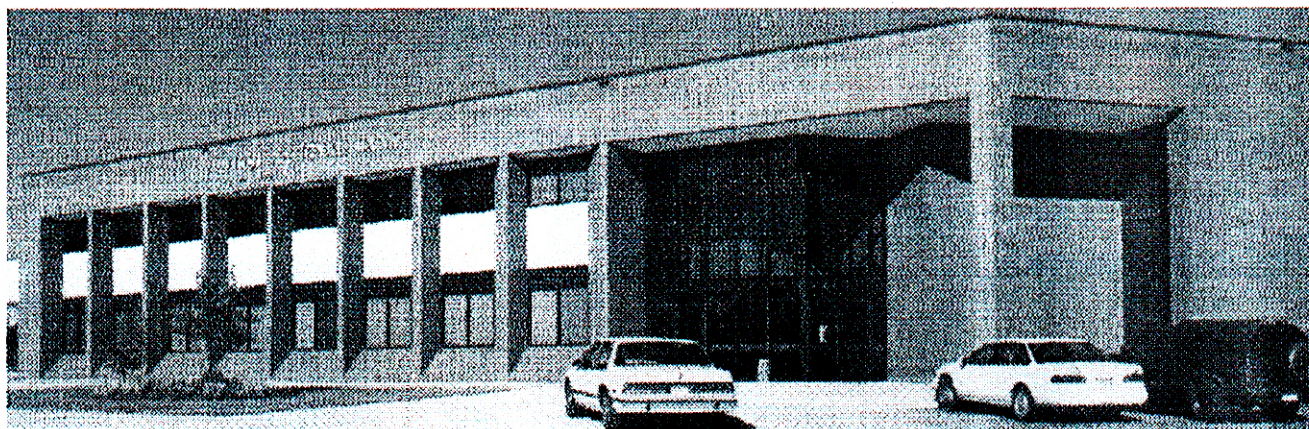
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Village of Bourbonnais part of Illinois county's history

That spot in Kankakee county around which traditions of the first white settlement cling—that particular spot which, from a solitary rude log domicile placed uncertainly in the broad wilderness terrain, expanding little by little until it became a “Ville” with a frontier tavern, a blacksmith shop, a store, a bar, a postoffice and finally a fixed name: is old “Bull-bonus Grove,” the Bourbonnais of today. Located in the heart of this magnificent prairie domain of the Pottawatomie of the Prairie and the Kankakee, two miles northwest of the city of Kankakee, this quaint little Canadian ville for the space of a full century has held fast to the traditions of its founder in matters of faith, language and habits.

Not only that, they have emulated the best traditions of the ancient Pottawatomie themselves by keeping alive the fires on the hearths, racial characteristics and the community spirit as well. We repeat, they followed the best traditions of their Pottawatomie neighbors, for a term “Pottawatomie” means literally “They who keep alive the fires.” Fire, to the aborigines, was a symbol of life, the totem of a tribal integrity, to be zealously preserved and guarded. The spark of the fire on the hearth was maintained with care by every pioneer. Henry S. Bloom once walked across the prairie from Bloomville to Samuel Davis’ place on Davis Creek, near Bourbonnais, and produced live coals, which he bore home in a brass kettle. In consequence of certain fixed habits of thought and speech and action, together with a certain tenacity by which ancient customs are adhered to by French populace generally, generations have followed in the footsteps of preceding generations with but little or no variation from established order of living and doing.

To the student of the country’s early history there is a pleasing note in the simple Canadian patois one hears while visiting in old Bourbonnais that seems like the echo of days when the coureur de bois roamed at will through the wilderness domain on terms of friendly intimacy with the Indian; when the black-robed French Jesuit missionary erected his portable altar in the virgin forest and first spoke of the white man’s God. And where the lights gleam at night from comfortable cottages set among the stately forests that still remain on the banks of the Kankakee, those who are moved to exercise the imagination, who indulge in the luxury of dreams, may picture that earliest of all Frenchmen to navigate the Kankakee, the stern, ill-fated LaSalle, intent on the king’s business, encamped with his retinue while the night enfolds them.

This little village of Bourbonnais, in Kankakee county, is distinguished from all others in this, that it was the first white man’s abode in the county. Here Noel LeVasseur settled in March of 1832, according to the statement of Gurdon S. Hubbard. Here, also, during the early years of the settlement, doctors, lawyers, merchants, tavern keepers and other people afterwards famous in the early history of Kankakee City, first plied their

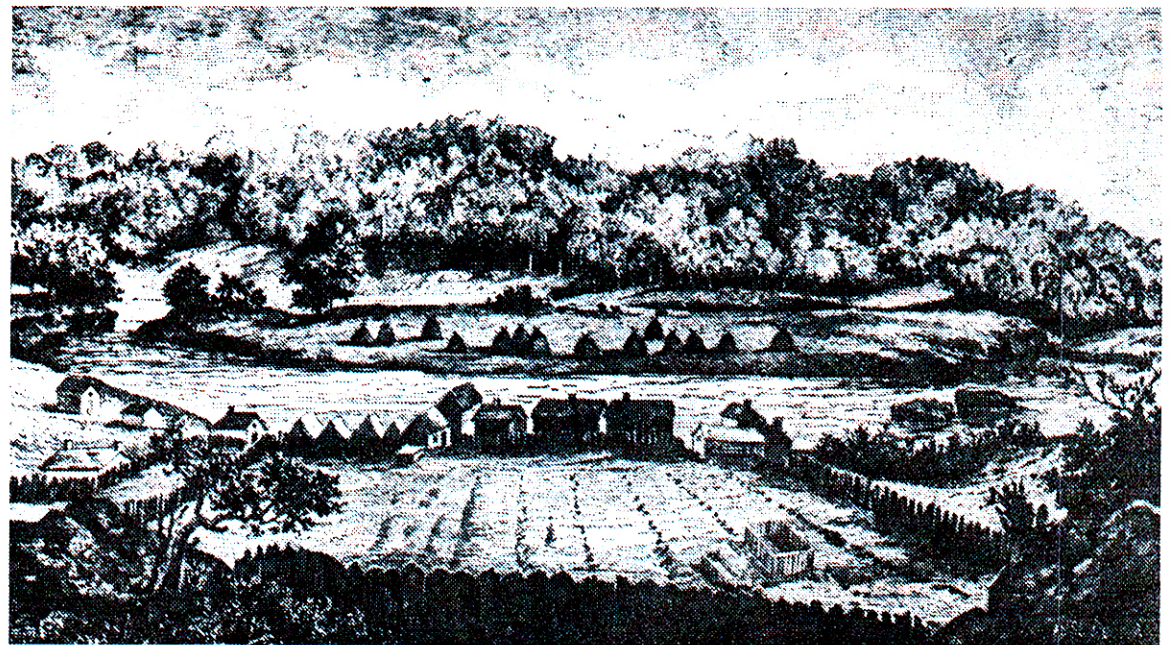
This article is the first of a series from Burt E. Burroughs: Annotated - The Story of Kankakee's Earliest Pioneer Settlers, a local history book published in Bradley, Illinois in 1986. The book was compiled from newspaper articles written in 1932 and published in the Kankakee Daily Republican. It is reprinted with the permission of tribal member Vic Johnson, whose notes and introduction are part of the book, which contains a wealth of information about Potawatomi families and their lives while in the Great Lakes area.

trades until the Illinois Central railroad came in 1853, when Kankakee was born. It is a quiet, peaceful, contented little ville whose traditions and legends and feuds and romance reach back over shadowy trails and winding ways to the early Canadian provinces along the St. Lawrence, and from there to old-world Normandy. Indeed, this Bourbonnais of ours is a bit of old-time Normandy and a bit of old-time Canada rolled into one, fashioned quaintly and pleasingly as becomes an ancient heirloom fit to adorn the bosom of a twentieth century landscape in the heart of beautiful Kankakee-land. Of her a citizen and a member of the college faculty has written cleverly and aptly — “Bourbonnais n’est pas grand’chose, Mais d’Amerique il est le beau Paris qu’il renferme mon mid cheri.” An Anglicised version of the foregoing would be something like this — Bourbonnais is not so hot — it’s no great thing, But (believe it or not) of America it is the beautiful Paris; And on her my heart is set because it holds my own loved nest. And there you have sentiment and satire delicately blended.

Noel LeVasseur's Early Life

Of Noel LeVasseur, the Canadian, founder of Bourbonnais, whose early life was spent in the wilderness of the great middle west as a rover and voyageur, part time attache of the Astor Fur company, but little has ever been written. The nearest approach to an autobiography of this noted pioneer character is that from the pen of L’Abbe Fanning, of the University town of Louvain, Belgium, which was published during the 70’s as part of an admirable work entitled “Les Canadiens de l’Ouest.” Materials for this autobiography were gathered by L’Abbe Fanning during an extensive sojourn at Bourbonnais in 1870 as a guest, probably of l’Grande Seigneur himself. From this work of l’Abbe Fanning we learn that Noel LeVasseur was born in the year 1799 at St. Michel de Yamaska, Canada, in the night of Christmas, a circumstance which gives an especial significance to his surname, for Noel in the French is the word for Christmas.

His father, Antoine LeVasseur, is spoken of as one of those brave, cultivated Canadians, remarkable for their uprightness, religious spirit, habits of industry and attachment to the soil. His mother, born Angilique Lavelle, was possessed of all the



American Fur Company's Post At Fond du Lac, About 1827. From Thomas L. McKenney's Tour of the Lakes. This post was in Minnesota, west of Lake Superior.

attributes and qualities of the robust, industrious woman.

The Rev. Father J.E.B. LeVasseur, formerly in charge of S.S. Mary and Joseph's church at Chebanse, has kindly furnished us with the following data regarding the origin of the LeVasseur family of Canada. He says: “Noel LeVasseur, of Bourbonnais (my father was also named Noel because born on Christmas day), is, as I told you, very remotely related to me. Two brothers John LeVasseur, surnamed ‘LaVinge’ and Pierre LeVasseur, surnamed ‘L’Esperance’, came from Bois-Boulogne, near Rouen, Normandy, France, about 1665. John LeVasseur remained near to Quebec; he was a bailiff. His brother, Pierre, went up to Three Rivers, Canada, ninety miles from Quebec. Their father and mother were Noel LeVasseur and Catherine Gauche, of Bois-Boulogne. You see, the name Noel was often given to members of the LeVasseur family. One of my brothers who died recently was named Noel. He had a son named Michel and also another of the name of Leon. Mrs. Joseph LeBlanc, of Ashkum, was married in her first wedding to Leon LeVasseur, of Bourbonnais, who was born at St. Michel d’Yamaska, province of Quebec, Canada. Noel LeVasseur was born in the year 1799, the day, as indicated by the name Noel, being Christmas day.”

In common with many of the French-Canadian youth of that early time, LeVasseur as he grew up succumbed to the lure of life as a voyageur. There was a tremendous appeal to his youthful fancy in the picturesque garb of the voyageur, the lusty “chanson,” and bluster and hubbub they created when these hardy men of the wilderness flotillas came ashore. The shadowy trails of river, lake, woods and illimitable prairie beckoned LeVasseur with an irresistible fascination. His preliminary training in the ways of the wilderness he started to acquire when scarcely seventeen years old.

It was then he went west in com-

pany with a typical crew of twenty-four men under the direction of one Rocheblave, to engage in trade with the Indians. He left Montreal May 15, 1817, and reached Michillimackinac the succeeding summer. Here M. de Rocheblave sold out his enterprise to the American Fur company, and his crew of twenty-four men passed into the service of the new company, at the head of which (to use the words of l’Abbe Fanning), “was the opulent M. Astor, of New York.”

Later LeVasseur abandoned the service of the Fur company and, setting out with a lone companion, an Indian, spent the balance of the year of 1817 in an hazardous canoe trip traversing the then new country embraced within the boundaries of the state of Wisconsin. The winter of 1817 was spent at Fon-du-Lac. LeVasseur later re-engaged in the service of the American Fur company, being employed for a time in the preparation of the peltries designed for shipment to England at the company warehouse at Michillimackinac, on the upper peninsula of Michigan. For several years he served the company in the country of Indiana, going for a sojourn of a month or so each year to Michillimackinac.

In the year 1821 or 1822, LeVasseur, still an employee of the American Fur company, was assigned to the company post located in Bureau county, Illinois, at that time in charge of M. DesChamps. Here he first met that vigorous, dominating character of the wilderness, Gurdon S. Hubbard, with whom he later served as lieutenant or right-hand man in locating the company at the mouth of Sugar Creek and the Iroquois river, near to old Middleport, now a part of Watseka. Hubbard’s most memorable work in the county of the Iroquois was the establishment of the well known “Hubbard Trail,” in the year 1824.

This trail of Hubbard’s was an offshot of the old, original Chicago-Danville-Vincennes trail. He started at a point on the old trail known as Axtells, several miles north of the

present town of Milford, Iroquois county, projecting a line across the prairie to the northeast to old Bunkum, on the Iroquois river, thence north to Chicago, crossing the Kankakee river one mile east of Momence and passing through the towns of Grant, Crete, Bloom and Chicago Heights of today. This trail on the outskirts of Chicago connected with the old state road and State street, which thus derived its name, was part of the trail which led to South Water street. This trail was laid out on the dividing ridge between the waters flowing into the Wabash on the east and the Illinois on the West. Immediately a trading post was established on this trail which for years went by the name of Bunkum, now known as Iroquois. The business of the trading posts was greatly expedited by means of this trail. Furs were carried into Chicago on the backs of ponies and necessary supplies brought back. The tedious, wearing trips by water by way of the Iroquois, the Kankakee, the DesPlaines and the Chicago rivers and the inevitable portage to the latter stream, were thus obviated to the great relief of the voyageur, seasoned to hardships and fatigue though he was.

The post at Bunkum, in the main, was a sort of independent trading privilege enjoyed by Hubbard and it seems as though he at one time had visions of becoming a “Grand Seigneur” of the wilderness, for he married the Indian squaw, Wat-chee, niece of the chief Tam-in. But gradually the sphere of his business operations enlarged, opportunity beckoned more and more and, after two years of married life, he found it convenient to put aside the manner of the Potawatomi. Noel LeVasseur succeeded to the business of the post at Bunkum and also in the affections of the desposed wife, Wat-chee. They lived happily together for a period of ten years during which time she bore him three sons. Then LeVasseur’s mounting ambition as a man of wealth and of affairs, led him to divorce the hapless native belle of the wilderness.



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Motley draws no opposition for new term

Jerry Paul Motley, a descendant of Potawatomi Chief Abram Burnett, will serve another four-year term as a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Business Committee.

Motley was re-elected when no one else filed for the Business Committeeman #4 seat during a filing period that opened on Monday, March 27 and closed at the end of the business day on Wednesday, March 29.

Motley's name will appear on the ballot for the annual Citizen Potawatomi Nation election, scheduled for Saturday, June 24, 2000. An in-person voting location will be open on the CPN reservation from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. that day.

Tribal members can also request absentee ballots. A ballot request form is included in this edition of the *HowNiKan*, on page 16.

Every tribal member who is 18 or older is eligible to vote in Citizen Potawatomi Nation elections. All eligible voters are entitled to vote by absentee ballot.

Requests to vote by absentee ballot must be presented to the



Business Committeeman Jerry Paul Motley, Left, Will Serve Another Term On The Business Committee. He Is Pictured Here With Burt Raymond Of Livingston, Texas, At The South Texas Regional Council Meeting.

Election Committee no later than 20 days prior to the election – June 5, 2000 for this year's election.

To vote by absentee ballot, a tribal member must "mark his ballot, seal it in an inner envelope, and see that the absentee

ballot is timely delivered."

When the absentee ballot is mailed back to the Election Committee, "only the outer

envelope should have the voter's name, return address, roll number, and legal signature written upon it."

To be counted, absentee ballots must arrive at the election Committee's post office box "not later than 10:00 a.m. of the last Saturday in June" – June 24 for this year's election.

The polls will be open for in-person voting from 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 24, 2000. Any voter who is in line at 2:00 p.m. but who has not been able to cast a ballot by that time will be allowed to vote.

The late March filing period was also open for a Grievance Committee position. No one filed for the office, creating a requirement for the Business Committee to appoint a tribal member to the position.

Also on the June ballot for a decision by tribal members is a budget for use of money earned from investment of tribal trust funds.

Mr. Motley is a native and current resident of Tecumseh. He is a sales executive for Belshe Trailers, a Tecumseh-based trailer manufacturing firm.

HowNiKan DEADLINES AND ADVERTISING RATES

The deadline for political advertising in The *HowNiKan* is the 5th of the month. Rates for political ads are listed below. Each candidate is offered a free quarter-page ad in the April issue as provided for in the tribal election ordinance. All other political ads must be paid for by the person or persons placing the ad. Payment must be made to the tribal Director of Accounting before the ad can be printed. The editor of The *HowNiKan*, under the election ordinance, shall have final approval on contents of free and paid advertisements and shall review the contents for libel, slander and inaccuracy of facts with the tribal attorney.

ADVERTISING RATES:

FULL PAGE - \$100

HALF PAGE - \$50 • QUARTER PAGE - \$25

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION REQUEST FOR BALLOT • 2000 ELECTION

To comply with the 2000 Citizen Potawatomi Nation Election Ordinance, please complete this form and return to: Potawatomi Election Committee, P.O. Box 310, Tecumseh, OK 74873

NAME: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP: _____

Under penalty of perjury, I hereby declare this to be my legal signature and Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Roll Number:

SIGNATURE: _____ TRIBAL ROLL #: _____

THIS FORM MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JUNE 5, 2000